

Amendment to the Claims:

Before claim 1, please delete the word "Claims" and substitute the following:

What is claimed is:

1. (Currently amended) A method of purifying contaminated oil from particles suspended there in by means of a liquid separation aid having a density larger than that of the oil and being dispersed in the contaminated oil in order to make the particles more easily separable from the oil, the method comprising
 - supplying said contaminated oil and said liquid separation aid into a separation chamber of a rotating centrifugal rotor,
 - separating in said separation chamber the particles and the liquid separation aid from the oil by centrifugal force,
 - discharging purified oil from the separation chamber through a central light phase outlet thereof and
 - discharging separated particles together with separated liquid separation aid from the separation chamber through a heavy phase outlet of the separation chamber, situated radially outside said central light phase outlet,

~~characterized by~~

- pre-charging the separation chamber, before supplying a substantial amount of contaminated oil thereinto, with a starting liquid, which is heavier than the oil and insoluble therein, in an amount such that a layer of the starting liquid forms a liquid seal in the centrifugal rotor, covering said heavy phase outlet,
- supplying thereafter said contaminated oil and said liquid separation aid into the separation chamber, and
- discharging from the separation chamber through said heavy phase out-5 Jet at least part of said starting liquid and particles together with liquid separation aid, separated from the oil.

2. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~wherein characterized by using as said starting liquid~~ an amount of said liquid separation aid is used as said starting liquid.
3. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~wherein characterized in that~~ the oil is a mineral or synthetic oil containing additives giving the oil desired properties for its intended use, the density of the oil being in the interval to about 0.85 to about 1.05~~0,85—1,05~~ g/cm³ at 40°C.
4. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 3, ~~wherein characterized in that~~ the oil is a pure mineral oil having a density of about 0.85 to about 0.90~~0,85—0,90~~ g/cm³ at 40 °C.
5. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 4, ~~wherein characterize in that~~ the mineral oil is one that has been used as an insulating agent in a transformer or tap changer, is free from additives, apart from necessary oxidation inhibitor, and is contaminated with very small soot particles, the separation aid being a liquid polymer.
6. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 3, ~~wherein characterized in that~~ the oil is one that has been used as a lubrication oil for Diesel engines and is contaminated with small dispersed particles, the separation aid being a liquid polymer.
7. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~5 or 6~~, ~~wherein characterized in that~~ the polymer is a polyhydroxy aikoxylate having a density of 1,0 - 1,1 g/cm³ at 40 °C.